

SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

March 10, 1980

(Month of February, 1980)

The number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters during February was relatively unchanged over the last thirty days, according to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists which conducts the monthly survey of oil companies and contractors. The total number of seismic land crews and marine vessels active domestically during February was 469, up one land crew from January.

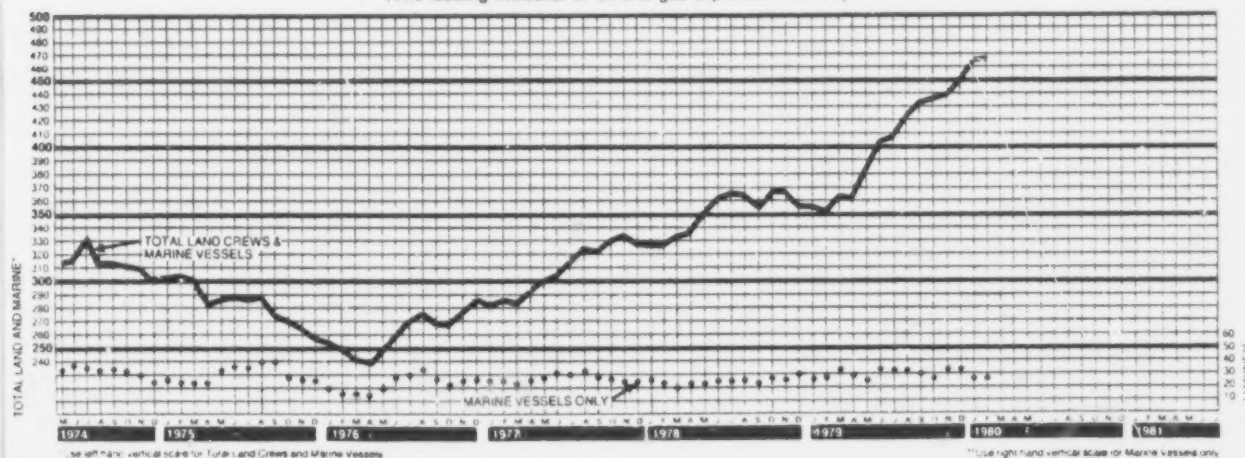
The February total (469) represents an increase of one quarter of 1% over last month, a 34% increase over February, 1979, a 43% increase over February, 1978, a 64% increase over February, 1977, an 88% increase over February, 1976, and a 55% gain over the same month in 1975.

During February, five contractors were operating six of their 401 land crews and none of their twenty-four vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Feb. '79	Feb. '78	Feb. '77	Feb. '76	Feb. '75
	469	468	350	328	286	249	302
LAND CREWS				MARINE VESSELS			
	This Month	Last Month	Feb. '79	Feb. '78	Feb. '77	Feb. '76	Feb. '75
68 Contr's:	401	400	284	270	225	194	237
10 Oil Co's:	39	39	37	35	34	38	41
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	--	--	--
Totals:	440	439	321	305	259	232	278
	This Month	Last Month	Feb. '79	Feb. '78	Feb. '77	Feb. '76	Feb. '75
68 Contr's:	24	24	22	18	21	12	20
10 Oil Co's:	5	5	7	5	6	5	4
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	--	--	--
Totals:	29	29	29	23	27	17	24

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity)



*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

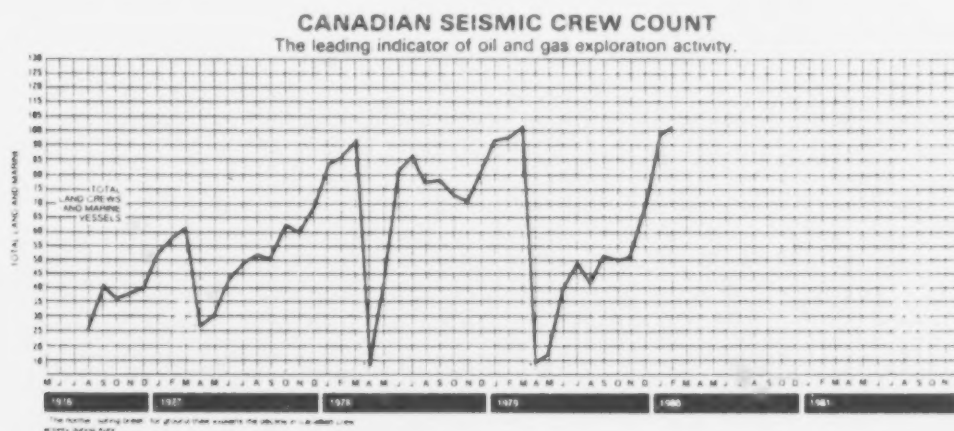
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CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

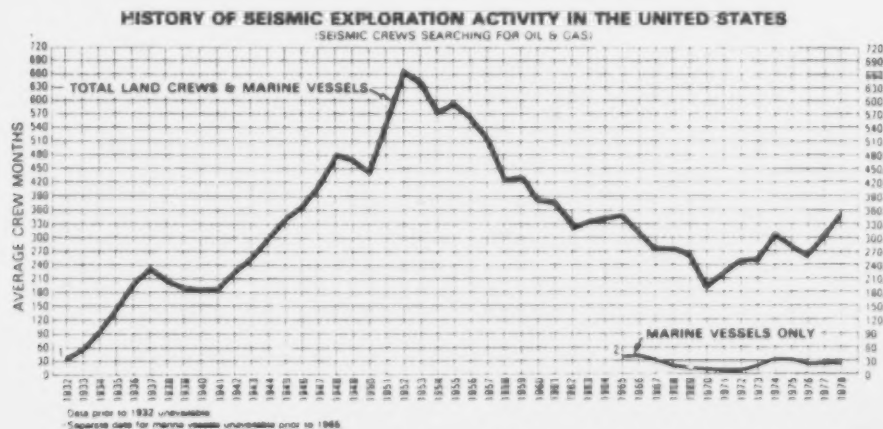
February, 1980 (January figures in parentheses)

	<u>Land Crews</u>	<u>Marine Vessels</u>
23 Contractors:	98*(95)	0 (1)
2 Oil Companies:	3 (3)	0 (0)
Totals:	101 (98)	0 (1)

*Important Note: Information received just prior to release of this report appears to indicate the February Canadian land crew figure should be approximately fifteen crews higher. Additional information will be forthcoming in the March report.



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.



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